

SOMETIMES THIS IS IT.

THE POTATO KNIFE MAY SHARE THE DISTINCTION.

THIS STAGHORN VETERAN HAS SEEN 40 YEARS SERVICE.

THE ORDINARY WOODEN HANDLE BUTCHER KNIFE IS ABOUT AS POPULAR AS ANY.

# STATISTICAL SAM

CUTS IN WITH

## "THE KITCHEN SHARP KNIFE"

BETTER BLADE THAN HANDLE

STILL USEFUL

BRICK SHARPENED

IRON HANDLE

THE KIND PAW BUYS

A GOOD OLD-TIMER.

AFTER 37 YEARS OF USE

SHARPENED BY THE YOUNG HUSBAND FOR THE FIRST TIME.

### KITCHEN SHARP KNIFE

#### MOST VALUABLE KNIFE IN HOUSE

With All Such Knives Made Into One Big One, Panama Canal Could Be Dug in Jiffy—Crock, Stovepipe, Brick or Steel Housewife's Favorite for Sharpening Purposes.

### THE BEST CAT CALL IN THE WORLD

"FROM time immemorial," said Statistical Sam at the last meeting of the kitchen cabinet. "It has been the custom in all well-regulated families to maintain a kitchen sharp knife. Most families maintain two, big and little."

"With the 30,000,000 kitchen sharp knives of the 15,000,000 families of the United States made into one big sharp knife, a commensurate Uncle Sam could dig the Panama canal in mighty quick order: for, the knife could weigh 3,000,000 pounds, of which one-third would be handle."

"How do I arrive at such conclusion? That's easy to explain. I asked the men at the works to bring down their kitchen sharp knives on a common day. Enough were brought to show that the average knife runs ten to the pound and has been in service five years."

"Not every knife, however, makes a good kitchen sharp knife. Out of a dozen knives taken from the same box, perhaps but one may be found which will take and keep a good cutting edge. When that knife is discovered it becomes the most valuable knife in the house, whether it cost

nine cents or nine dollars. Even the old iron handle knife sharpened on the brick wall outside the kitchen door, may cut as well, and, for the length of time it lasts, prove as valuable a household asset as the staghorn handle veteran brought from Germany more than forty years ago and still in use."

"Not one-third of the kitchen sharp knives of America are sharpened by husbands. That usually falls to wife or cook. For, when a man sharpens a kitchen knife he usually makes too good a job, and somebody is always getting cut. What the wife

or cook wants is not a razor-edge, but something half way between that and a miniature saw. A crock, a stovepipe, a brick, or a steel, is a kitchen favorite for sharpening purposes."

"The average price of the kitchen sharp knife when new is thirty cents. That may seem rather high estimate, but is not. For, when one plebeian blade rises above its fellows to make good, it is quite apt to find itself in a goodly assemblage of old, true and tried aristocrats."

"The Chinese have a proverb: 'Old knife must be good knife. If

not good knife, must be throw away long time ago.'—And so it would seem."

"Nine million dollars is what the kitchen sharp knives of the United States originally cost. In their worn state no one may estimate their value. You ask the average possessor of such a knife to place a price upon it, and the average reply will be:

"No, sir! You can buy all the rest, but not that!"

"With five to a family (and ever allowing for an equal amount of 'company'), ten table knives are sufficient. Adding to them the two kitchen

sharp knives and the total value of family knives in the United States is \$34,000,000."

"My old granddaddy had a sharp kitchen knife he got from the Indians. It was made of flint, one edge smooth and one edge nicked, with the handle wrapped in deer sinew. Grandpa could sharpen the smooth edge by rubbing; but when it came to the nicked edge, it took the old gentleman to sharpen it; which he did by chipping a fresh edge after the manner of its first manufacture. And whenever that operation was in progress, it well behooved all children to run away and play."

"Quaint are the histories connected with kitchen sharp knives. Sharpened by the young husband for the first two or three times, kitchen-sharpened thereafter, dulled by Young America's cutting of kite sticks later on, gradually worn down by lengthened usage, the old familiar domestic stand-by could many a tale unfold."

"Yes," added a member of the cabinet, "and the sharpening of the kitchen knife is the best cat-call in the world."

(STATISTICAL SAM WITH NEW INFORMATION NEXT WEEK.)

## FITTINGS OF WOOD

CONSIDERED MORE SANITARY THAN WALL PAPER.

Dull Finish Leads in Popularity—Immense Variety of Ways in Which the Natural Wood May Be Treated.

The present demand for wood fittings are trimmings in private dwellings exceeds anything that has been encountered in that line for two decades, and the varieties of wood in use are even more surprising than the quantity demanded. The polished woods are being superseded by the dull finished woods in most cases. There is a great demand for natural oak, chestnut, mahogany, walnut, etc., and a great variety of ways in which they may be treated. Everything of dull finish, with the grain of the wood conspicuous, is in great favor, and the brighter browns have given place to the ash browns and grays.

A certain library, in which wood was extensively used to great advantage, had the walls to the height of six feet from the floor covered with wood divided into panels two and a half feet wide, by strips of the wood four inches wide, both panels and dividing strips being perfectly plain and flat, without moldings or decoration of any sort. The wood was oak, though it did not at all resemble it. The coloring was a two-tone, mottled combination of dull gray and grayish green, every appearance of grain having been removed by a solution of lead, rubbed well into the pores of the wood, then covered with a dull stain alone.

Many of the modern dining rooms have a wood cornice and frieze from 15 to 20 inches wide, the ceiling being left plain. A room of this type done in gray-toned oak with a renaissance design had a wood cornice of eight inches joined to a 12-inch wood frieze, which was heavily carved in a scroll and grape design, as were also the posts unholding the mantel, the capitals of the doors and windows, and the six-foot wainscoting.

Walnut of dull finish, quite different from the old-fashioned sort, is in extensive use for lofty halls, its dark effect being relieved by touches of gold on capitals and columns.

The enameled woods are steadily growing in popularity for drawing rooms, all but the ceiling being finished in the wood. A drawing room but recently completed is lined from top to bottom with paneled, pale green, enameled wood in combination

with white enameled wood touched up in gold leaf, and has doors, mantel and window to match.

In sleeping rooms, too, wood is taking the place of paper, birch, sycamore, bird's-eye maple, and sometimes enameled woods being used, the first mentioned being in a new garb, gray and green having the preference as to color. A sleeping room done in bird's-eye maple had a cornice and frieze 18 inches deep and a three-foot wainscoting.

There is a wide belief that wood is more sanitary than paper, but one of the main reasons for its increased demand is that it is something new. It must be admitted, however, that there is a very restful quality in these wood interiors.

### TO HOLD SMALL ARTICLES.

Pretty Work Bag Makes Up Well in Silk or Sateen.

This pretty bag, for holding small pieces of work and the necessary utensils, can be made from silk or sateen, and may be of any size.

Two circles of cardboard are first covered with the material, upon which a spray of flowers and a butterfly are



worked. The pieces which surround the circles and joins them in out on the cross, and should be a little narrower at each end than in the center. The width must be regulated by the size of the circles. Gather each edge and attach to the inner edge of circles; fix by machine if the cardboard used will allow.

Line the circles, and sew ribbon at each side, which join by a bow in the center.

Paper on Damp Walls.  
The following recipe for attacking pa-

per off walls that the damp is very satisfactory: Take a quarter of a pound of shellac and a pint of naphtha, stir well together until the shellac is dissolved, then paint the damp wall thoroughly with the mixture. When the mixture has dried in the wall is ready for papering. Paper put on after this process will not become loosened.

### MAID WEARS PRINCESS APRON.

Is Alike and Yet Unlike the Conventional Model.

Quite the newest idea in maid's aprons is the Princess model, and this, as its name implies, suggests being cut all in one piece.

As a matter of fact, however, only the front in the form of a panel and about four inches of the lower edge are cut in one piece, the remaining portions carrying out the design of the conventional models, to which the panel part is connected by means of a strip of embroidery insertion. The material is gathered at the top and takes into the belt from the panel, closing in the back without ends.

Shoulder straps of the insertion edged with a frill support the apron from the bib, buttoning to the belt in the back. Another variation of this style has a plain front panel, the side portions gathered into a belt at the top and hemmed and tucked on the bottom.

The front is then joined with the insertion, while a third, closely following these lines, shows a ruffle, instead of the hem and tucks, headed by the insertion, which, however, does not extend across the front panel.

This kind of apron will be worn by the up-to-date waitress and chambermaid. They may be bought for from \$1.50 upward, according to quality and decoration.

For madam's personal attendant the English lady's maid's apron is the preferred model. This is like the style worn by nurses, being very large and full, with a hem five inches deep on the bottom, which in its turn is buttoned in round scallops on the edge. The apron completely covers the dress, and is taken into a plain belt with gathers.

The commodious pockets for holding brushes and other toilet requisites are hemmed and scalloped on their upper edges to match the hem.

### ORNAMENTS FOR THE HAIR.

Clusters of Currants Are an Innovation—Tassels Also Worn.

Among the new hair ornaments are some of pliable wire fillets covered with twisted purple velvet and finished with clusters of currants on either

side—buck over the right ear and white over the left. The latter are made of soft, silvery tinsel, while each cluster of fruit is supplemented with a few natural-colored leaves.

Another innovation for evening wear, which is popular in deference to the craze for tassels, is the introduction of these accessories into the realm of hair ornaments. In some cases a Greek fillet of beaten silver is worn in the front of the hair, the ends of the fillet being hidden by the soft waves and curls of the coiffure, while on either side, a little over each ear, two heavy pendent silver tassels are introduced, which, at a distance, almost convey the effect of a pair of earrings.

### Following Her Lead.

A Denver woman went to a swell dinner the other day, says the Post of that city. She was seated on the right of the hostess. There were eight people at the table. Before her she found a long array of knives, forks and spoons, and, being possibly a little unsophisticated, she began to work over the problem of using the right ones for the right courses.

Being next to the hostess, she knew she would have to begin eating each course first. However, when the dinner began she stopped worrying and used whatever knife, fork or spoon she thought should be used. She was delighted to find that everybody else at the table did exactly as she did.

When it was all over she learned from four or five women present that they didn't know what to eat with, either, and that they had simply followed her lead.

### TO TEST BICYCLIST SOLDIERS.

England to Pit Cyclists Against Regular Troops in Maneuvers.

London.—One of the most important military experiments attempted in recent years will be put to the test during the August maneuvers in East Yorkshire. A body of volunteer cyclists will oppose regular troops.

It is the first time in the records of the British army that cyclist soldiers have been called upon to undertake any really serious operations, and these maneuvers, which have been specially arranged for this experiment, will be watched with extreme interest.

Cyclist corps in the past have been regarded by the war office with only a moderate amount of interest. Recent maneuvers, however, have shown that the cyclist soldier, with his great mobility and speed capabilities, may be a very important factor in the warfare of the future. It is with a view to discovering exactly how useful a cyclist can be on the battlefield that the maneuvers at Beverly have been organized.

### IN PALE BLUE PONGEE.



Gown of pale blue pongee, with bands of black silk upon which are large black velvet dots.

### MAN AND THE BETTING GAME.

He Who "Plays a System" at the Race Track Certain to Quit Loser.

Here is an interesting letter: "I play the nags once in awhile. I think I have a pretty fair system and was just thinking of trying it when I ran across an article which caused me to hesitate. If a man sticks to his system, has control of himself and is not a hor, but satisfied with a modest wager, is there no chance of success? Do you think it impossible to win by a system? Is there any reason why

a man cannot keep decent and still play the game?"

Ever since Diomed won the first derby in England system after system has been devised for "beating the races." No system—not a single one—has ever succeeded in the long run. It has been figured out that there are 27 chances to one against you always in a field of ten horses. The best system ever known is at the mercy of the betting ring. There are not bookmakers enough in the United States to lay against a system. Several years ago a man started with a five-dollar bet, doubled it after each loss and returned to the original five dollars after each winning. For awhile he prospered amazingly, playing nothing but the favorite, but in the end he went broke.

If a man with a system could bet against the United States treasury he could win. At Sheephead Bay 14 favorites lost in succession. The fifteenth started at odds of three to one and was an easy winner. Now, figure out the predicament of the man with the system. Starting with five dollars and doubling after each loss he found it necessary to go into the ring and bet the sum of \$81,920. He stood then a loser of \$81,945. If he could have bet on the fifteenth favorite he would have had at issue over \$163,000. Now, anybody who knows the betting ring knows that it would be utterly impossible for a dozen Joe Vendiggos to place practically \$82,000 at three to one. But—if it could have been placed the system man would have won \$246,000.

### Guimpe Gowns With Surplice Lines.

Surplice lines still prevail in many of the silk guimpe gowns. Their simplicity of design is not very congruous with their cost, but they are extremely effective. Silk gowns are much liked for churchgoing, but checks and stripes, growing more pronounced as the season advances, prevail even in this fabric. Checked and striped silks require little trimming, but they must be carefully treated. A stiff silk voluminously plaited and standing out in all directions is not artistic to look upon. The flowing lines seen in some modified empire models are very pretty, but not all women can wear them. Gored skirts made of fancy silks, having wide checks or huge dots, ought not to have any trimming beyond, perhaps some graduated bands of plain silk on the bottom.

### Marcel Waves.

Take a piece of wood and whittle it into six sticks, each four inches in length. Roll the hair on these and tie up firmly with a linen rag. Leave up two hours. When unrolled the hair will be waved beautifully.



### Ehrenpreis Beer

is a food—not an intoxicant. Contains the right amount of alcohol—brewed at the right temperature—and it's absolutely pure.

Taste Some

"Brewed by Dostal Bros. in Bucyrus."

In Days of Old.  
Cain rushed up to the fig tree in a fever of excitement.

"Oh, pa," he exclaimed, breathlessly, "I just saw a pterodactylus catch a big glyptodon and swallow him whole."

Father Adam shook his head. "Better be careful, my son," he warned, "or some one will accuse you of being a nature faker."

For even in those days it was not wise to exaggerate about the habits of big game.

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